Demands of Station Masters' Association

420. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has recently received a Memorandum from the All-India Station Masters' Association;

(b) what were the demands raised therein; and

(c) whether Railways have taken any step to find solutions to those demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached. (*See* below).

(c) All the demands of the Station Masters have been thoroughly examined by the Ministry of Railways, but the same have been found to be either unjustified or not feasible for acceptance. The detailed reasons in this regard, underlying each of the demands, have been repeatedly explained by the Ministry of Rialways during conciliation proceedings held by the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), New Delhi on 04th and 05th April 2002 and again on 11th June 2002 and through a letter issued on 03rd July 2002. The Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) also duly conveyed the reasoned stand of the Ministry of Railways, on the demands, to the representatives of All India Station Masters' Association.

Statement

Demands contained in Memorandum received from All India Station Masters' Association

Item 1 : Vacation of victimisation.

Item 2 : Supervisor to be placed above the supervised.

Item 3 : Uniform Allowance.

Item 4 : Payment of NHA &NDA in terms of OTA.

Item 5 : (A) Essentially Intermittent classification should be abolished in the case of open line staff.

(B) the working hours be reduced to 40 hours a week in the case of continuous workers and 30 hours a week in the case of intensive workers.

Item 6 : Train Superintendents posts shall be exclusively reserved for Station Masters.

Item 7 : Draft uniform avenue of promotions free from lateral entry at any level by direct recruits.

Item 8 : Scrap selection for Grade to Grade promotions.

Item 9 : Station Masters also be headquartered only at Junction, major and important Stations as in the case of other categories.

Item 10 : Statutory Bonus in addition to the present PLB continued as 'incentive bonus'.

Item 11 : To check attributing human errors as reason in the case of accidents resulting due to system failure.

Repair of rail tracks

†421. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for repairing the rail-tracks is beig considered; if so, how many kilometers would be covered and the amount likely to be spent thereon; and

(b) by when the track-repair scheme is likely to be implemented and the time frame for completion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Repair and maintenance of railway track is an on-going activity. Apart from regular maintenance, track renewals are also undertaken, whenever required, depending upon the availability of funds.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.